

Message Text

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62

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 092425

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, IR

SUBJECT: INVITATION TO AFL-CIO TO ATTEND THIRD CONGRESS
OF IRAN WORKERS' ORGANIZATION APRIL 27-29

REF: TEHRAN 3650

1. WE HAVE DISCUSSED WITH DIRECTOR OF AFL-CIO'S
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT THE QUESTION OF THE
INVITATION TO THE AFL-CIO TO ATTEND THE IWO CONGRESS
APRIL 27-29. AFL-CIO NOTES THAT IT IS WELL INFORMED
OF LABOR DEVELOPMENTS IN IRAN AND HOPES THAT AN IN-
DEPENDENT AND DEMOCRATICALLY ORGANIZED TRADE UNION
MOVEMENT WILL DEVELOP THERE.

2. IT IS CONFIRMED THAT THE AFL-CIO WILL NOT BE ABLE
TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO THE IWO CONGRESS DUE PRIMARILY
TO ITS HEAVY NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS
THE LATTER HALF OF APRIL. HOWEVER, EVEN IF THIS WERE
NOT THE CASE, THE DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT POINTS OUT THAT THERE ARE TWO PROBLEMS WHICH
WOULD MAKE AFL-CIO PARTICIPATION QUESTIONABLE: (1) A
FREE AND INDEPENDENT LABOR MOVEMENT HAS, IN THE VIEW OF
THE AFL-CIO, YET TO BE ESTABLISHED IN IRAN, AND (2)
THE AFL-CIO FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO PARTICIPATE AT LABOR
CONVENTION TO WHICH REPRESENTATIVES OF LABOR ORGANIZATION

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FROM TOTALITARIAN REGIMES ALSO HAVE BEEN INVITED TO

PARTICIPATE.

3. THE AFL-CIO WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO CONTACTS WITH APPROPRIATE LABOR OFFICIALS FROM IRAN FOR DISCUSSION OF TRADE UNION QUESTIONS WHEN OCCASIONS ARISE SUCH AS ILO MEETINGS IN GENEVA.

4. EMBASSY IN ITS DISCRETION MAY DRAW ON ABOVE POINTS IN RESPONDING TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. ROBINSON

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